

October 15, 1997

Ms. Jane E. Vezeris
Deputy Assistant Director
Office of Administration
United States Secret Service
1800 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20223

Re: Request for Information (SS-21): Files and Records on the Assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem and Ngo Dinh Nhu

Dear Jane:

This letter constitutes our twenty-first formal request for additional information and records under the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992, 44 U.S.C. § 2107 (Supp. V 1994).

I am writing to ask that you examine your records and files for information on the assassination of Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem and his brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, on November 2, 1963. Our understanding is that the Secret Service routinely investigates and studies assassinations and assassination attempts. According to Warren Commission Document No. 1141, "Outline Principles of Protection of the President and Other Dignitaries (1954)," the Secret Service has gathered information on assassination attempts on a number of world figures. See especially pages 1-16 for specific discussions of assassination attempts.

Given the Service's history of examining the methods and motives of assassins as well as the circumstances surrounding attacks on political figures, we ask that you make available any information you gathered on the assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem and Ngo Dinh Nhu in Vietnam. If the Service did not gather information on this assassination, please provide an explanation for this exception to your standard practice.

To the extent that this request presents logistical or other difficulties that we may not have anticipated, or to the extent that these records may be located in the National Archives at a place other than the JFK Collection, we will be happy to discuss with you ways in which the request might be amended.

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We ask that you make these records available no later than November 18, 1997.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Jeremy Gunn
Executive Director

cc: Mr. Donald Personette